CLAIMS

1. An acidic cleaner in block form containing the components

   a) citric acid and

   b) one or more acids selected from adipic, succinic and glutaric acid.

2. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it has a total water content of at most 20% by weight, more preferably of less than 15% by weight and most preferably of less than 13% by weight, based on the cleaner as a whole.

3. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that it has a total water content of at least 1% by weight and, more particularly, of at least 3% by weight, based on the cleaner as a whole.

4. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that it contains at least two of the acids adipic, succinic and glutaric acid as component b).

5. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that it contains not only adipic acid, but also succinic and glutaric acid as component b).

6. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the ratio of component a) to component b) is (20 to 60) : (20 to 60) and preferably (30 to 50) : (30 to 50).

7. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that it contains an acid selected from lactic acid, phosphoric acid, alkyl benzene sulfonic acid or alkanesulfonic acids with 1 to 4 C atoms in the alkane chain as an additional acidic component c).

8. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that it contains lactic acid as the additional acidic component c).

9. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in claim 7 or 8, characterized

in that the ratio of component a) to component b) to component c) is (20 to 60) : (20 to 60) : (10 to 30) and preferably (30 to 50) : (30 to 50) : (10 to 30).

10. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that it contains at least one surfactant selected from nonionic, anionic and cationic surfactants as further components.

11. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that it is surrounded by a plastic capsule.

12. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the plastic capsule consists largely of polyethylene.

13. An acidic cleaning block as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that it remains solid at room temperature and preferably at temperatures of up to 35°C.

14. A process for the production of the acidic cleaning block claimed in to any of claims 1 to 13 comprising the steps of

a) initially introducing preferably deionized water, bearing in mind that the quantity of water should be selected so that the total water content amounts to at most 20% by weight, preferably to less than 15% by weight and more preferably to less than 13% by weight, based on the cleaner as a whole,

b) adding the acids and

c) cooling the mixture to room temperature, preferably in a plastic capsule, more preferably in a polyethylene capsule.

15. A process as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that, when adding the acids as stated, the optional acid c) is added first, then acid a) and finally acid b).

16. The use of the acidic cleaning block claimed in any of claims 1 to 13 for the preparation of aqueous cleaning solutions by dilution with

water by a factor of 20 to 10,000.

17. The use of cleaning solutions obtainable by dilution of the acidic cleaning block claimed in any of claims 1 to 13 with water by a factor of 20 to 10,000 for cleaning surfaces in the institutional, industrial and agricultural sectors.

18. The use of cleaning solutions obtainable by dilution of the acidic cleaning block claimed in any of claims 1 to 13 with water by a factor of 20 to 10,000 for cleaning membranes.